

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1. Cancelled

1 2. (Currently Amended) ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 1, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a left panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a right panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left panel near a left point of
7 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right panel near a right point of
9 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a side panel outer;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener.

1 3. ~~(Currently Amended) The automobile body in accordance with claim 1, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a left panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a right panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left panel near a left point of
7 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right panel near a right point of
9 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a side panel outer extension;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener.

1 4. ~~(Currently Amended) The automobile body in accordance with claim 1, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a left panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a right panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left panel near a left point of
7 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right panel near a right point of
9 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member includes a side panel outer extension and a side panel
13 outer;

14 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
15 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
16 stiffener.

1 5. (Currently Amended) ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 1,~~ An
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising;

4 (a) a left panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a right panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left panel near a left point of
7 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right panel near a right point of
9 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a rear panel;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener.

1 6. (Currently Amended) ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 1,~~ An
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a left panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a right panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left panel near a left point of
7 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right panel near a right point of
9 attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a floor frame member;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener.

1 7. (Original) The automobile body in accordance with claim 6, wherein the body
2 member further comprises a rear panel.

1 8. Cancelled

1 9. Cancelled

1 10. Cancelled

1 11. Cancelled

1 12. (Currently Amended) ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 11, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a rear inner panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a rear inner panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left rear inner panel near a left
7 point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right rear inner panel near a
9 right point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a side panel outer;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener; and

16 (g) a box-beam parcel shelf rigidly mounted at a left side to the left rear inner
17 panel and at a right side to the right rear inner panel.

1 13. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 11, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a rear inner panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a rear inner panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left rear inner panel near a left
7 point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right rear inner panel near a
9 right point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a side panel outer extension;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener; and

16 (g) a box-beam parcel shelf rigidly mounted at a left side to the left rear inner
17 panel and at a right side to the right rear inner panel.

1 14. (Currently Amended) ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 11, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a rear inner panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a rear inner panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left rear inner panel near a left
7 point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right rear inner panel near a
9 right point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member includes a side panel outer extension and a side panel
13 outer;

14 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
15 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
16 stiffener; and

17 (g) a box-beam parcel shelf rigidly mounted at a left side to the left rear inner
18 panel and at a right side to the right rear inner panel.

1 15. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 11, An~~
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a rear inner panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a rear inner panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left rear inner panel near a left
7 point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right rear inner panel near a
9 right point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a rear panel;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener; and

16 (g) a box-beam parcel shelf rigidly mounted at a left side to the left rear inner
17 panel and at a right side to the right rear inner panel.

1 16. (Currently Amended) ~~The automobile body in accordance with claim 11;~~ An
2 automobile body having improved resistance to torsional deformation, the body
3 comprising:

4 (a) a rear inner panel on a left side of the automobile;

5 (b) a rear inner panel on a right side of the automobile;

6 (c) a left damper stiffener rigidly attached to the left rear inner panel near a left
7 point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

8 (d) a right damper stiffener rigidly attached to the right rear inner panel near a
9 right point of attachment to the body of an automobile suspension;

10 (e) a left damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the left
11 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
12 stiffener, wherein the body member is a floor frame member;

13 (f) a right damper stiffener extension extending from rigid attachment to the right
14 damper stiffener to rigid attachment to a body member positioned rearward of the damper
15 stiffener; and

16 (g) a box-beam parcel shelf rigidly mounted at a left side to the left rear inner
17 panel and at a right side to the right rear inner panel.

1 17. (Original) The automobile body in accordance with claim 16, wherein the body
2 member further comprises a rear panel.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The automobile body in accordance with claim 12,
2 wherein the box-beam parcel shelf further comprises first, second, third and fourth ~~beam~~
3 panel members, each ~~beam~~ panel member having lateral edges, and said ~~beam~~ panel
4 members being joined at lateral edges to one of said lateral edges of an adjacent ~~beam~~
5 panel member to form walls of the box-beam parcel shelf.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The automobile body in accordance with claim 18,
2 wherein the first and second ~~beam~~ panel members are spaced substantially from one
3 another, and the third and fourth panel members are spaced substantially from one
4 another.

1 20. (New) The automobile body in accordance with claim 13, wherein the box-beam
2 parcel shelf further comprises first, second, third and fourth panel members, each panel
3 member having lateral edges, and said panel members being joined at lateral edges to one
4 of said lateral edges of an adjacent panel member to form walls of the box-beam parcel
5 shelf.

1 21. (New) The automobile body in accordance with claim 14, wherein the box-beam
2 parcel shelf further comprises first, second, third and fourth panel members, each panel
3 member having lateral edges, and said panel members being joined at lateral edges to one
4 of said lateral edges of an adjacent panel member to form walls of the box-beam parcel
5 shelf.

1 22. (New) The automobile body in accordance with claim 15, wherein the box-beam
2 parcel shelf further comprises first, second, third and fourth panel members, each panel
3 member having lateral edges, and said panel members being joined at lateral edges to one
4 of said lateral edges of an adjacent panel member to form walls of the box-beam parcel
5 shelf.

1 23. (New) The automobile body in accordance with claim 16, wherein the box-beam
2 parcel shelf further comprises first, second, third and fourth panel members, each panel
3 member having lateral edges, and said panel members being joined at lateral edges to one

- 4 of said lateral edges of an adjacent panel member to form walls of the box-beam parcel
- 5 shelf.